

Date: Thu, 24 Jun 93 16:35:14 PDT
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #777
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Thu, 24 Jun 93 Volume 93 : Issue 777

Today's Topics:

 copper tube J pole
 DX Bulletin 63 ARLD063
 Grid Square/Coordinate Conversion
 Looking for a FD site in San Antonio TX
 Propagation Forecast Bulletin 21 ARLP021
 Radio Shack HT
 SCOM Repeater Controller Spurious Reset Help
 Special Bulletin 12 ARLX012
 Summary: Making home Ham Friendly (2 msgs)
 Two-Line Orbital Element Set: Space Shuttle

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: 24 Jun 93 11:26:01 CDT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-
state.edu!uwm.edu!linac!uchinews!raistlin!timbuk.cray.com!hemlock.cray.com!
cherry10!dadams@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: copper tube J pole
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Last night I put together Ed Humphries copper tube J pole for 2M. It
worked wonderfully. I was really pleased.

David, NOWWN

--David C. Adams Statistician Cray Research Inc. dadams@cray.com
-Sourdough and Ham- - Minnesotans for Global Warming! -
(&gardner)

Date: Thu, 24 Jun 93 19:56:08 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-
state.edu!cis.ohio-state.edu!mstar!n8emr!bulletin@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: DX Bulletin 63 ARLD063
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

=====
| Automatic relayed from packet radio via |
| N8EMR's Ham BBS, 614-895-2553 |
=====

ZCZC AE26
QST de W1AW
DX Bulletin 63 ARLD063
>From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT December 31, 1992
To all radio amateurs

SB DX ARL ARLD063
ARLD063 DX news

Thanks to Bob, WB2CJL, and the Western New York DX ution reverts back to civilian
rule soon.
It is hoped that the current ban on ham radio activity will be
lifted sometime around January 15.

PITCAIRN ISLAND. VK4CPU and WK3D will operate VR6JJ and VR6BB
starting January 10 through sometime in March. Look for their CW,
SSB, RTTY and FM. Plans are to operate 160 through 6 meters,
including the WARC bands. QSL via JF2K0Z.
NNNN

Date: 24 Jun 93 14:48:11 EST
From: titan.ksc.nasa.gov!k4dii.ksc.nasa.gov!user@ames.arpa
Subject: Grid Square/Coordinate Conversion
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I found an MS-DOS program, GRID.COM, at the ARRL BBS. It is useful for
converting between geographical coordinates and Grid Squares. I "uu
encoded" the short binary file, which is included below. Since I did the

encoding on a Macintosh, I can't easily tell if it is done correctly, or if it will work when downloaded and "uu-decoded". I'd appreciate a reply posting, indicating whether or not it works.

73, Fred, K4DII

fred-mckenzie@ksc.nasa.gov

Cut Here -----

```
begin 644GRID.COM
MZ0\%2&5L;&\@:&%C:V5R(2 W,R!D92!'53--0E,@0"!0C='55(@,#(@36%Y
M(#@Y1U))1"Y#3TT@=C$N,"!F;W(@35,M1$]3("8@24)-(#!#.R H8RDQ.3@Y
M(%-T979E($=I8F)S+"!'53--0E,N#4$@<'5B;&EC(&10;6%I;B!U=&EL:71Y
M(&90<B!N;VXM8V]M;65R8VEA;"!D:7-T<FEB=71I;VX@)B @=7-E+@T*1&5C
M;V1E<R!A;F00;W(@96YC;V1E<R!A;6%T975R(')A9&EO(%=0<FQD("!15$@@
M(&Q08V%T;W(@(&=R:61S+B @4WEN=&%X+0U;9#I=6UQ=6W!A=&A<74=2241;
M(&QL;FY;;&Q=75L@9&1M;7-S6TY\4UT@9&1D;6US<UM%?%==70T*("!A*2!$
M14-/1$4Z(" @5VAE;B!G:79E;B T+2!A;F00;W(@(#8M8VAA<F%C=&5R("!G
M<FED<R @87,@(&-0;6UA;F0M;&EN90UP87)A;65T97)S+"!D96-09&5S($QA
M=&ET=61E("8@3&]N9VET=61E(&%T(&=R:61S)R!C96YT97(Z#5-Y;G1A>"T-
M(" @("!'4DE$(&QL;FY;;&Q=(" @(" @(" @(" @(" @(" @(" @9&5C
M;V1E<R T+5LV+5T@8VAA<F%C=&5R(&=R:61S+ T@*&5G($=2240@24XX.7)L
M(&EN.#D@;&<X.7-Q($UH,3!R2"D@(" @(" @("!A8V-E<'1S(&UU;'1I<&QE
M('!A<F%M971E<G,[#65R<F]R+71R87!P960[("AL(#T@;&5T=&5R("AC87-E
M(&EN<V5N<VET:79E*2P@;B ](&1I9VET*2X-"B @8BD@14Y#3T1%.B @($-0
M;G9E<G-E;'DL('=H96X@9VEV96X@3&%T:71U9&4@86YD($Q0;F=I='5D92!A
M<R @8V]M;6%M9"T-;&EN92!P87)A;65T97)S+"!E;F-09&5S(&$@-BUC:&%R
M86-T97(@9W)I9#H-4WEN=&%X+0T@(" @($=2240@;&%T:71U9&4@;&]N9VET
M=61E(" @(" @('=H97)E($QA=&ET=61E(&ES(&EN(&90<FT@9&1M;7-S6TY\
M4UTL#2 H96<@1U))1" T.3(Y,30@,# R,S0R,5<I(" @(" @(" @(" F($Q0
M;F=I='5D92!I<R!I;B!F;W)M(&1D9&UM<W-;17Q773L-97)R;W(M=')A<'!E
M9#L@8F]R9&5R;&EN92!P;VEN=',@87)E(&5N8V]D960@=&\@9W)I9"!.(&%N
M9""]O<B!%.PTH9" ](&1E9W)E92P@;2 ](&UI;G5T92P@<R ](' -E8V]N9#L@
M;&5A9&EN9R!Z97)O<R!N965D960I+ TH3B ]($Y0<G1H+"!3(#T@4V]U=&@@
M*&1E9F%U;'@03BD[($4@/2!%87-T+"!7(#T@5V5S=" H9&5F875L="!%*2DN
M#0H@(&,I(%5304=%.B @("!3:&]W<R!T:&ES(' -C<F5E;BX@(%-Y;G1A>"T@
M($=2240@*&Y0('!A<F%M971E<BDN#21L;&YN;&P@.B D04$P,&%A$A(*"A@8
M!)D9/AM;2=S<R(_(&1D9/AM;2=S<R(_(#H@) @) 4) 4) 0D) 4)
M 4)15)23U(A!R0 +Z *R8B]C& /^LF#P@=OH\_W4,NC !M G-
M(;@!3,TA4+JY!;0)S2%8/#!R!SPY=P/IV@"[!@#&A[P%($MU^,8&Z@4DZ+L"
MB,$>'=/]L,"=0DD7_#;'!0"!""(A[P%*H?&!7(W.H?,!7,QBH_.!?!70+
M P8*!O?AHPH&ZPD#;!X&]^&C#09#K)B ^P1RMW<7/"!V&#S_=!3KJXC(B(>\
M!5"ZO 7I(0* ^P5TF8##!E"X @"[ 0"+#X&BQ8*!GO,N# NQ@ T>'1X='B
M \%0B\,!T"W@$',']C&!MT%4[L' .@P NAO E@MP"%S!_?8Q@;I!5>[$P#H
M&@)!Z#D"NKP%M G- (;K4!>GO <8&P@4DNQ< 2\:'U 4@@/L6=0)+2X#[$G3Z
M@/L/=6 ^PMU K,(@/L=&.F ^P-TY(3;==3H00&(P8B'U 4L, '(&.H?N!78#
MZ6@!K$. ^P)T^H##!73U@/L(=/ " ^PEU+CP@=!H\3G01/&YT#3Q3= 0\<W47
```

MQH?4!5.L/"!U#:P_W0(/"!T)T-#ZZSI)@& ^PYTN(#[\$72S@/L4<IH\('0:
MOSS_=!4\1701/&5T#3Q7= 0\=W75QH?4!5=05KD" +[7!>AY ;L\ /?CHPH&
M1NAM 0,&"@:C"@: ^U 7H8 &[\$ [WXP,&"@:#T@"C"@:)%@P&N%H]^ . ? =3
M=0HK!@H&&Q8,!NL(P8*!A,6# :[E@#W\Z,*!K[C!>@B ;L\ /?CHPX&1N@6
M 0,&#:#@:C#:#@: ^WP5!Z @!NQ .]^,#!@X&@](HPX&B180!KBT /?C.Q80!G((
M=PH[!@X&<P1>Z5@ @'P'5W4**P8.!AL6\$;K" ,S%A &NRP!].C#:#@:[
M!@"*C\L%,]+VPP%U"J\$*!O?QHPH&ZPBA#:#@;W\:,.!HJ'Q04 T(B'NP5+==9>
MZ10 B,B(A)0%4+K4!;0)S2&Z @;I"@ZU 6T"<TANKP%S2&ZN07-(5@\('0'
M//]T#ZSK]:P\('3[/]T ^DL_:@ 3,TAQ@;=!4[&!ND%13/;B1X*!HD>#:#
MN3 ,]+W\5"+PKE+ /?AN3P]_0B*Y @#H!@!8Z (6,-1,N34"@0PB(?4
J!4N(X.+Q2UG#43/;N@H ,N2L+#"3]^(!P^+QB\ -9PQH:&AH:&AH:&AH:

end

Date: 24 Jun 1993 16:38:15 -0500
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-
state.edu!cs.utexas.edu!not-for-mail@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Looking for a FD site in San Antonio TX
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Looking for a FD site in San Antonio TX for the father (KB5MTH) of a
friend.

Please email to plaws@uafhp.uark.edu

73,
Peter Laws
N5UWY/AG / V31WY / VE2???

President,
Amateur Radio Club,
University of Arkansas / W5YM

Peter Laws |"The '90s are gonna make the '60s|plaws@uafhp.uark.edu
n5uwy@ka5bml.ar.usa.noam| look like the '50s" --D. Hopper|plaws@uafsysb.bitnet

Date: Thu, 24 Jun 93 19:56:11 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-
state.edu!cis.ohio-state.edu!mstar!n8emr!bulletin@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Propagation Forecast Bulletin 21 ARLP021
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

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| Automatic relayed from packet radio via |
| N8EMR's Ham BBS, 614-895-2553 |
=====

ZCZC AP82
QST de W1AW
Propagation Forecast Bulletin 21 ARLP021
>From Tad Cook, KT7H, Seattle, WA
May 28, 1993
Relayed by KB8NW/OBS & BARF-80 BBS
To all radio amateurs

SB PROP ARL ARLP021
ARLP021 Propagation de KT7H

Solar activity was very low again last week. The solar flux stayed below 100 for most of the period, which is part of the gradual trend downward as we head toward the minimum of the current solar cycle.

The positive side was that geomagnetic conditions were extremely quiet. The A index was actually between zero and two all week, which is almost unheard of. Those numbers would be good even if they were K indices. The K index was zero or one for most periods.

Solar flux is starting to head back up, but should show a slow modest rise to only 110 before mid-June, when it will then drop back down below 100 around June 21. Geomagnetic conditions should stay quiet throughout the month, but there is a possibility of a disturbance over the weekend during the WPX CW Contest.

Twenty meters looks like the best all around HF band, with more openings during the evening hours as we shift toward summer conditions. Lower frequency communications should be more of a problem due to seasonal increases in atmospheric noise.

Sunspot numbers from May 20 through 26 were 48, 34, 22, 13, 38, 55 and 88, with a mean of 42.6. 10.7 cm flux was 91.1, 91, 91.8, 94.9, 98.4, 99.8 and 107.5, with a mean of 96.4.

The path projection for this week is also to Spratly Island as it was last week, but this time from the west coast of the United States, centered on San Francisco.

75 and 80 meters should be good from 1030z to 1330z, with the best conditions around 1200z. 40 meters should be open from 1000z to 1430z, but best from 1130z to 1300z. 30 meters should be open from 0930z to 1530z, peaking from 1030z to 1400z. 20 meters should be open from 0800z to 1700z, with best bets from 0930z to 1530z. The

best time for 17 meters looks like 0630z to 0800z, but other possible openings may be from 1400z to 1830z. 10, 12 and 15 meters do not look very promising, although 15 meters may have some openings on the west coast end from around sunset until 0830z.
NNNN

Date: 24 Jun 93 20:32:24 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!msuinfo!netnews.upenn.edu!
netnews.noc.drexel.edu!coe.drexel.edu!jpw@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Radio Shack HT
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I am seriously thinking of buying the radio shack 2m HT. Does anyone have any last minute advice/warnings?

Is it worthwhile to spend 2x for a dual bander such as Alinco 580?

Thanks,
Joe, KA3VJY

--
Joseph Wetstein KA3VJY PPL-SEL

Date: Thu, 24 Jun 93 18:00:22 GMT
From: netcomsv!butch!rapnet!news@decwrl.dec.com
Subject: SCOM Repeater Controller Spurious Reset Help
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

My repeater with an SCOM 5K controller has developed a problem with resets. Several times a day (or even more often), The controller sends "? RES" indicating a reset. Sometimes this is preceded by the transmitter keying in very short pulses at a rate of about 2 per second.

These symptoms appear consistant with the processor partially or totally crashing followed by the watchdog timer going off and resetting the controller.

We have speculated about the source of the problem...

- bad internal processor voltage: checked ok
- bad solder joint: no mechanical intermittents
- who knows what else?

If anyone out there can help with more specific suggestion where to look, we

would appreciate it.

I have to say that if the processor actually crashes and gets recovered by the watchdog timer, then SCOM did a truly wonderful job. Because the overall operation of the controller continues to provide repeater service... just with the annoying "? RES" cw and the "blip blip blip" from the transmitter. Not too many computer systems continue to work if the processor crashes regularly.

The views expressed here are my own, not my employer's.
Jeff Millar, Lockheed Sanders, 603-885-7047

Date: Thu, 24 Jun 93 19:55:03 GMT
From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-state.edu!cis.ohio-state.edu!mstar!n8emr!bulletin@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Special Bulletin 12 ARLX012
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

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| Automatic relayed from packet radio via |
| N8EMR's Ham BBS, 614-895-2553 |
=====

ZCZC AX21
QST de W1AW
Special Bulletin 12 ARLX012
>From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT June 5, 1993
To all radio amateurs

Paul Grauer, W0FIR, passed away Saturday, June 5. Paul was ARRL Midwest Division Director from 1974 until three days before his death, when he resigned for health reasons. On June 3 the ARRL Board of Directors had elected him honorary Vice President in recognition of his more than 21 years of service to the league as Vice Director and Director, and to the ARRL Foundation as President and Director.
NNNN

Date: Thu, 24 Jun 1993 16:23:54 GMT
From: agate!howland.reston.ans.net!noc.near.net!squam.banyan.com!banyan.com!

dts@ames.arpa
Subject: Summary: Making home Ham Friendly
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Another potential fix to GFI problems would be to move the GFI location. It is possible to install GFI circuit breakers in your distribution panel rather than at the outlet. It is not clear to me whether the interference problem would be the same or not, as the device configuration is different.

Even if the GFI breaker approach did not directly solve the problem, it would likely be easier to install the common mode chokes (if required) shortly after the distribution panel. The choke would then be NEAR the GFI, and in a place where the wires are more likely to be accessible (especially if you have an unfinished basement).

--

Daniel Senie Internet: dts@banyan.com
Banyan Systems, Inc. Compuserve: 74176,1347
508-898-1188 Packet Radio: N1JEB@WA1PHY.MA

Date: Thu, 24 Jun 1993 20:26:47 GMT
From: sdd.hp.com!col.hp.com!news.dtc.hp.com!hpscit.sc.hp.com!icon.rose.hp.com!
greg@network.UCSD.EDU
Subject: Summary: Making home Ham Friendly
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Ed Hare - KA1CV (ehare@arrl.org) wrote:
: filter the ground. I have no real idea if the GFI is responding
: to the common-mode signal, or what smaller amount of differential-
: mode RF signal is being picked up by the house wiring.
:

Is there an easy test I can do to determine which mode of signal I have?

: Unfortunately, anything plugged into the outlet is being installed
: after the fact -- the RF signal has already gotten to the GFI
: circuitry and worked its deviltry. If, as is likely the case, the

Actually, this is one of those GFI-breaker-and-wall-plug-in-one units. Outlets upstream from the breaker (there are several) are unprotected, but that outlet and all downstream (all the bathrooms) are protected. My thought was to bypass the stuff heading into the breaker at that plug itself, since it is on the protected side. As you point out, that will only work for differential mode interference, which seems unlikely.

Since I doubt I would be allowed to dig into the wall to get at the wires right at the outlet, my choices seem to be:

1. Find another spot to access the down-stream wire and either:
 - a) put the ferrite there (which may make things better or worse)
 - b) insert 1/8 wave of wire (keeping electrical code, etc. in mind)
2. As Daniel suggests, move the GFI to the electrical panel, which:
 - a) changes the length of the protected part (may be better or worse)
 - b) allows access to the wires for inserting ferrite
3. Continue to stay off 15 meters :-(

Thanks for the help. If I do solve this thing, Ed, I'll beam you some E-mail.

Greg KD6KGW

Date: 24 Jun 1993 16:20:49 GMT
From: sun-barr!west.West.Sun.COM!l1-a!flloyd@decwrl.dec.com
Subject: Two-Line Orbital Element Set: Space Shuttle
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

This material now belongs in rec.radio.amateur.space:

Thanks,

-fred

In article <1993Jun23.215027.26395@afit.af.mil> tkelso@afit.af.mil (TS Kelso) writes:

>The most current orbital elements from the NORAD two-line element sets are
>carried on the Celestial BBS, (513) 427-0674, and are updated daily (when
>possible). Documentation and tracking software are also available on this
>system. As a service to the satellite user community, the most current
>elements for the current shuttle mission are provided below. The Celestial
>BBS may be accessed 24 hours/day at 300, 1200, 2400, 4800, or 9600 bps using
>8 data bits, 1 stop bit, no parity.

>

>Element sets (also updated daily), shuttle elements, and some documentation
>and software are also available via anonymous ftp from archive.afit.af.mil
>(129.92.1.66) in the directory pub/space.

>

>STS 57

>1 22684U 93 37 A 93173.60416666 .00001585 00000-0 31158-4 0 73
>2 22684 28.4618 306.1333 0043081 54.8894 132.0057 15.42493479 169
>--

>Dr TS Kelso Assistant Professor of Space Operations
>tkelso@afit.af.mil Air Force Institute of Technology

[Fred Lloyd, AA7BQ Fred.Lloyd@west.sun.com]
[Sun Microsystems, Systems Engineer]
[Phoenix, AZ (602) 224-3517]

Date: 24 Jun 93 18:16:10 GMT
From: walter!porthos!prefect!mgsail@RUTGERS.EDU
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1993Jun22.092045.1@ttd.teradyne.com>,
<1993Jun24.132931.6087@ke4zv.uucp>, <20cltr\$nc1@news.acns.nwu.edu>rs
Subject : Re: TV vs Cable. Why Pay for a FREE Signal

In article <20cltr\$nc1@news.acns.nwu.edu> rdewan@casbah.acns.nwu.edu (Rajiv Dewan) writes:

>Can you imagine a situation in which all commercial software
>were available for a song on a cable brought to your house? Do you think
>that Lotus, Microsoft or any other business would devote any resources to
>developing new products in such a situation?

The point of this analogy is lost on me. However, how would you feel if your neighbor got all his software free but you had to pay? The perception is that broadcasters are "giving" their programs away and now want a captive audience to pay for it.

My 2 cents.

Date: Thu, 24 Jun 1993 13:29:31 GMT
From: swrinde!emory!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary@network.UCSD.EDU
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <9306192035.AA01270@ucsd.edu>, <1993Jun21.123648.21165@ke4zv.uucp>,
<1993Jun22.092045.1@ttd.teradyne.com>
Reply-To : gary@ke4zv.UUCP (Gary Coffman)
Subject : Re: TV vs Cable. Why Pay for a FREE Signal

In article <1993Jun22.092045.1@ttd.teradyne.com> rice@ttd.teradyne.com writes:
>In article <1993Jun21.123648.21165@ke4zv.uucp>, gary@ke4zv.uucp (Gary Coffman)

writes:

>>

>> Cable subscribers are *already* paying for what others receive for
>> free. It's in the basic cable charge. The only question is whether
>> local broadcasters should get a cut just like the non-broadcast and
>> "superstation" originators do. Right now the cable companies have a
>> free ride on the programming costs absorbed by the broadcaster while
>> "pirating" away his broadcast audience and charging *them* for it.

>>

>> Gary

>

>Gee, last time I checked, Broadcasters made their money from *ADVERTISING*.
>The ammount that advertisers pay is based on *AUDIENCE*. Audience is calculated
>from the number of homes in the viewing area. The viewing area is extended by
>fringe cable systems acting as an 'antenna' for the broadcast signal. Thus
>increasing the number of viewers on which the advertising rate is based.

>

>Therefore, with cable coverage, the number of viewers is increased, the
>advertising rate increases and the Broadcasters profit increases.

Well gee, you should have checked more carefully. Audience is measured
by the number of viewers *actually* watching a program, not just capable
of receiving it. The cable companies can carry programming that broadcasters
are *prohibited by law* from carrying. That includes most any uncut movie
made in the last 20 years. They can also carry many many more choices
than a broadcaster can because each cable channel can have a smaller
audience and still draw enough aggregate viewers for the cable system
to be profitable. Now that's good for the viewer, but it's bad for
the broadcaster. All those non-broadcast program providers to the cable
operator get *paid* by the cable operator for the priviledge of using
their material. Now the cable operators don't want to pay the broadcaster
for his material, even though they are profiting from it via the basic
cable charge that they extract from the viewers. That's wrong.

Gary

--

Gary Coffman KE4ZV		You make it,		gatech!wa4mei!ke4zv!gary
Destructive Testing Systems		we break it.		uunet!rsiatl!ke4zv!gary
534 Shannon Way		Guaranteed!		emory!kd4nc!ke4zv!gary
Lawrenceville, GA 30244				

Date: 24 Jun 1993 16:48:59 GMT

From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-
state.edu!news.acns.nwu.edu!casbah.acns.nwu.edu!rdewan@network.UCSD.EDU

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1993Jun21.123648.21165@ke4zv.uucp>,
<1993Jun22.092045.1@ttd.teradyne.com>, <1993Jun24.132931.6087@ke4zv.uucp>ewan
Subject : Re: TV vs Cable. Why Pay for a FREE Signal

In the ongoing debate on payment by cable companies to broadcasters,
gary@ke4zv.UUCP (Gary Coffman) writes:

>

... a few lines have been deleted for brevity ...

>the broadcaster. All those non-broadcast program providers to the cable
>operator get *paid* by the cable operator for the privilege of using
>their material. Now the cable operators don't want to pay the broadcaster
>for his material, even though they are profiting from it via the basic
>cable charge that they extract from the viewers. That's wrong.

There is at least one other perspective. It is that of respecting others'
intellectual property rights and paying them for using their products.
Not paying broadcasters after selling their material affects consumers
too. It reduces the revenue to broadcasters and hence their willingness
to produce new, and probably expensive, programming. Enforcing intellectual
(very loosely speaking, of course) property rights fosters innovation and
creativity. Can you imagine a situation in which all commercial software
were available for a song on a cable brought to your house? Do you think
that Lotus, Microsoft or any other business would devote any resources to
developing new products in such a situation?

Rajiv

aa9ch

Address: r-dewan@nwu.edu

Phone: None on HF. Only CW.

Look for aa9ch/m on bottom end of 10m-80m.

Date: Thu, 24 Jun 1993 19:28:00 GMT

From: dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!linus!linus.mitre.org!

news@network.UCSD.EDU

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1993Jun21.123648.21165@ke4zv.uucp>,
<1993Jun22.092045.1@ttd.teradyne.com>, <1993Jun24.132931.6087@ke4zv.uucp>
Subject : Re: TV vs Cable. Why Pay for a FREE Signal

In article <1993Jun24.132931.6087@ke4zv.uucp> gary@ke4zv.uucp (Gary
Coffman) writes:

>Well gee, you should have checked more carefully. Audience is measured

>by the number of viewers *actually* watching a program, not just capable
>of receiving it. The cable companies can carry programming that
broadcasters
>are *prohibited by law* from carrying. That includes most any uncut movie
>made in the last 20 years. They can also carry many many more choices
>than a broadcaster can because each cable channel can have a smaller
>audience and still draw enough aggregate viewers for the cable system
>to be profitable. Now that's good for the viewer, but it's bad for
>the broadcaster. All those non-broadcast program providers to the cable
>operator get *paid* by the cable operator for the priviledge of using
>their material. Now the cable operators don't want to pay the broadcaster
>for his material, even though they are profiting from it via the basic
>cable charge that they extract from the viewers. That's wrong.

>
By this logic the makers of television sets should pay the broadcasters
because they are picking the signal out of the air. Rebroadcasting
material (assuming it is unaltered) is doing the same thing. Orignially
the cable companies started by providing service to areas that could not
pick up tv signals that well (people in valleys for instance). The cable
company would place an antenna on top of a mountain to receive the signal
and provide that to the local users. They weren't stealing, they were
providing a service (a big antenna). If they were using part of the
signal to rebroadcast only the material that they wanted (editing out the
commercials for example) then they would be violating the copyright.

Also, many of the channels on the cable are NOT paid for their
programming. They get their money by selling advertising. Case in point:
Ted Turner's superstation.

End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #777
